

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for
ADMINISTRATION & REGULATION
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: March 5, 2002

Place: Room 19, Reagan Room

Convened: 9:38 AM

Recessed:

Reconvened:

Adjourned: 11:18 AM

Present: Senators Schuerer-CH, Ziemann-VC, Flynn-RM, Drake, Hansen
Representatives Raecker-CH, Sievers-VC, Connors-RM, Elgin, Klemme, O'Brien, Tyrrell

Absent:

Excused: Representatives TaylorTE, Chiodo

Senator Schuerer called the meeting to order. Representative Tyrrell moved approval of the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried. Roll was taken.

Mr. Steve Young, the new Director of the Department of Inspections and Appeals as of February 15, 2002, presented the department's response to the 4.3% ATB budget reductions. He explained how reassignments and mergers of divisions were used to accommodate the 4.3% cuts, including the transfer of DHS functions to DIA. Mr. Young stated that DIA expects to provide the same level of services that DHS did, prior to the transfer. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Senator Schuerer thanked Mr. Young, and introduced the next speaker, Mr. Jerry Foxhoven, Administrator for the Iowa Citizen Foster Care Review Board (ICFCRB). Mr. Foxhoven explained the oversight role of the ICFCRB, and shared with the committee his goal to expand the program without using any additional moneys. He gave credit to the staff and the 400 volunteers for the success of the program. Following a questions and answer session, Senator thanked Mr. Foxhoven, and introduced Suzanne Boyde, the Director of the Iowa Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA).

Ms. Boyde presented an overview of the CASA program, and explained the relationship between the CASA program and the ICFCRB—CASA being the advocate for the child, and ICCFCRB being responsible for oversight of the program. She told the committee that, the 600 volunteers are a critical component of the success of the CASA program. Senator Schuerer thanked Ms. Boyd for her presentation.

William Angrick, Citizen Aide Ombudsman reported on the status of the CASA program, and how CASA came to be a part of the Ombudsman's office. He talked about the viable options available to meet the budget reductions, including the possibility of mergers, layoffs, and eliminating a program. After committee members asked several questions, Senator Schuerer expressed his appreciation to all of the presenters for their time spent with the committee.

Representative Elgin moved to arise. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Neal Schuerer,
Committee Co-chair

Beverly Walsmith
Committee Secretary